

The China Mail

Established February, 1845.

Vol. XL. No. 6408.

六月二年四十八百八十一英

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1884.

日初正申中

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALGAR, 11 & 12, Clerken's Lane, Lombard Street, E.C.; GORDON STREET & CO., 30, Cornhill; GORDON & GOTCH, Ludgate Circus, E.C.; BATES HENDY & CO., 37, Walbrook, E.C.; SAMUEL DRAGON & CO., 160 & 164, Leadenhall Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE.—GALLIEN & PRINCE, 30, Rue Lafayette, Paris.

NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 21, Park Row.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GOTCH, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO AND AMERICAN PORTS generally.—BEAT & BLACK, San Francisco.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAYLE & CO., Square, Singapore; O. HENSEN & CO., Manila.

CHINA.—MARCUS MUNSTER A. DE MELLO & CO., Canton; CUNNING & CO., Amoy; WILSON, NICHOLS & CO., TAIWAN; HEDGE & CO., Shanghai; LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & WALSH, Yokohama; LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.,

Bank.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....\$3,000,000.

INSTALMENT RECEIVED ON.....\$26,705.62

NEW SHARES.....\$5,926,705.62

RESERVE FUND.....\$2,500,000.

INSTALMENT OF PREMIUM RECEIVED ON NEW SHARES.....\$68,930.43

\$3,198,336.43

COUNCIL OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—W.M. KEENES, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—W.S. YOUNG, Esq.
H.E. DALYMPLES, A.P. McEWEN, Esq.
W.H. FORBES, Esq.
A. GÜNTZOW, Esq.
Lion F.B. JOHNSON.

CHIEF MANAGER.

Hongkong,...THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGER.

Shanghai,...EVANS CARMER, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED.

ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits—

For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.

6 6 4 per cent.

12 6 6 per cent.

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities and every Description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,

Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation,

No. 1, Queen's Road East.

Hongkong, August 25, 1883.

NOTICES OF FIRMS.

NOTICE.

WE HAVE This Day ESTABLISHED a

BRANCH of our Firm in Tsimshai,

Formosa. Mr. WILFRED CHRISTY is

authorised to sign on our behalf per Pro-

curation.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO.

Hongkong, January 1, 1884.

Intimations.

R.W.B. SIM & CO.'S PATENT ANTI-

FOULING COMPOSITION

as applied to

Her Majesty's Ships; The P.O. & S.N.C.;

The Douglas Steamship Company;

The Japanese Government;

Safe Agent, China, Japan, and Manchuria;

EDWARD GEORGE.

Hongkong, January 21, 1884.

E. J. DURNY,

PROFESSOR OF MUSIC.

LESSONS given on the PIANO and

ORGAN.

TERMS MODERATE.

Address.

c/o THE "CHINA MAIL" OFFICE.

Hongkong, December 18, 1883.

1157

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING

CORPORATION.

THE FOURTH and FINAL CALL OF

£10 Sterling per Share of the 20,000

SHARES, NEW ISSUE of this CORPORATION,

will fall due on the 31st DECEMBER, 1884,

in London, Calcutta, Bombay, Shanghai and Hongkong.

REGISTERED SHAREHOLDERS entitled to

NEW SHARES, are requested to Pay at

the respective OFFICES, the above Call or its

equivalent in the Currency of the above-mentioned place.

PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATES are being issued in Exchange for the First Call Received, which are to be surrendered to the Bank.

HOLDERS of PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATES, when paying this Call, will please send same to this Office to be exchanged.

The Rate of Exchange for Hongkong is fixed at £5.50, or \$5.50 per Share.

Interest at the Rate of 7% per Annum will be charged on Calls unpaid on the 31st DECEMBER.

By Order of the Court of Directors,

T. JACKSON,

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, December 18, 1883.

1221

WILLIAM DOLAN,

SAIL-MAKER & SHIP-CHANDLER,

22, Praya Central.

COTTON DUCKS, HEMP CANVAS

MANILA ROPE, AMERICAN

OAKUM, LIFE BUOYS,

GORE JACKETS,

&c., &c., &c.

Hongkong, May 1, 1882.

226

Intimations.



GOVERNMENT BILLS.

TENDERS for SPECIE, Mexican Dollars current in this Colony, weighing 7.7, in Exchange for BILLS drawn on Demands, on the Government of India. Calculations will be RECEIVED by the China PAYMASTER, Army Pay Department, until 12 o'clock, on THURSDAY NEXT, the 7th Instant.

The Tenders to state the Total Amount required (in Rupees), and the Amount for which each Bill should be drawn; but no Bill will be issued for sums below Rs 10,000. The Tenders to be in duplicate, in Sealed Covers, addressed to "The Chief Paymaster," Army Pay Department, and endorsed "Tenders for Government Bills." The right to accept or reject any or all the Tenders is reserved.

AUG. S. MURRAY, Lieut.-Col.

Chief Paymaster.

TREASURY CHEST OFFICE,
Queen's Road,
Hongkong, 6th February, 1884.

220

For Sale.

THE PATENT.

"FILTRE RAPIDE"

REMOVES ALL

ORGANIC and INORGANIC IMPURITIES, LEAD, COPPER, and POISONOUS GASES.

IT CRUSHES THE WATER.

It can be taken to pieces and cleaned in every part.

IT HAS BEEN AWARDED

Special Medal of Merit by the Sanitary Institute of Great Britain; Silver Medal National Water Supply Exhibition, London; Two Silver Medals International Food Exhibition, London; Two Certificates of Merit by Sanitary Institute, Exeter; Certificate of Merit International Medical and

Sanitary Exhibition, Kensington; Silver Medal Health Congress and Scientific Exhibition, Brighton.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Hongkong, January 30, 1884.

182

SAYLE & CO.'S GREAT CLEARANCE SALE.

CARPETS! CARPETS! CARPETS!

— AND —

GENERAL FURNISHING GOODS.

DRESSES. MILINERY. JACKETS.

HOSIERY. RIBBONS. LACES.

CALICOES. FLANNELS. SHOES.

REMNANTS. REMNANTS. REMNANTS.

COMMENCING ON

MONDAY NEXT,

the 4th February, and following days.

VICTORIA EXCHANGE,
Hongkong, February 1, 1884.

102

Intimations.

SEE WOO,
TAILOR, DRAPER & OUTFITTER,

No. 55, Queen's Road Central.

Has just Received by French Mail,

CHRISTY'S BLACK, BROWN AND

DRAB FELT HATS, AND

TWEED HATS,

(of all shapes).

All Kinds of PERFUMES and TOILET SOAPS.

All Sorts of GENTLEMEN'S WINTER CLOTHING, &c., &c.

DAWSON & SONS' GENTLEMEN'S BOOTS and SHOES.

WHITE and COLOURED KID GLOVES.

Hongkong, December 3, 1883.

1052

THE SINGAPORE TRAMWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

CAPITAL.....\$600,000

IN SHARE OF \$10 EACH; \$5 PAYABLE

ON APPLICATION; \$20 on ALLOT-

MENT; THE REMAINDER AS

MADE REQUIRED.

Directors.

Hon. JAMES GRAHAM, M.L.C., (Messrs. SYMH & CO.)

Hon. W.G. GULLAND, M.L.C., (Messrs. PATERSON, SIMONS & CO.)

Hon. ANDREW CURRIE, M.L.C., (Messrs. THE BORNEO COMPANY, LIMITED.)

HON. R. CUTTERBERTSON, Esq., (Messrs. BOEDSTED & CO.)

T. H. SOHST, Esq., (Messrs. PUTTMARKEN, REINER & CO.)

JOHN BLAIR, Esq., (Manager, TANJONG PAGAR DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED)

ONG KEU HUO, Esq., (Messrs. Ong Kee Ho & Co.)

Engineer.

THE CHINA MAIL.

The writer of the account of the wreck of the *Chinkiang*, which appeared in our columns last night, added to his article a few rather vague remarks about the desirability of effecting some changes in the constitution of crews which mainly consist of natives, presuming that they continue to be found as unreliable in time of danger as the crew of the *Chinkiang* appears to have been. What the writer of the article meant was that, assuming provision should be made for wrecks, it would be desirable to stiffen native crews with European quarter-masters. If the affaire of the *Chinkiang* is to be taken as a criterion of the steadiness of a Chinese crew when a vessel gets wrecked, it would certainly seem to be a case, on such an occasion, of *securis qui peunt* among the Chinese on board, both crew and passengers. At the same time the conduct of Chinese crews at wrecks has not been a matter of frequent complaint in this part of the world, while they are constantly spoken well of by captains of vessels for their willingness, the little amount of trouble they give, and on economical grounds. There have been times when European crews have exhibited quite as much want of steadiness, and almost as much sulksness, as did the Chinese crew and passengers, on board the *Chinkiang* the other day, and there will always be the difficulty of the native passengers to be dealt with. The question, however, of having European quarter-masters for Chinese crews generally is a subject that might receive the attention of steamship owners, especially if the experience of the *Chinkiang* is repeated. Our idea is that Chinaman is not lacking in courage and steadiness at sea under trying circumstances, if his selfishness can be kept in check.

In another column we publish two or three memorials giving a complete report of the way in which war taxes are to be levied at Canton, and some interesting particulars of the working of the native banks. It will be observed that one of the imperial censors has suddenly, and, we must say, most conveniently discovered that there are a number of officials in the Kwantung province, who, during many years past, "have been guilty of enriching themselves at the expense of the public." Public opinion and justice, adds this Censor, now demand that these officials be brought to book, as a warning to others, and that they may be made to disgorge their ill-gotten gains for the benefit of the public expenditure for war purposes. "Every man, woman and child in Kwangtung is cognizant of their peculations, and hates them accordingly!" The names of these disreputable officials are given, and among them we notice two bearing the name of Chuan, "both ex-superintendents of Customs at Canton. We have been wondering if either of these Chuans is the gentleman about whom the San Francisco papers have written so wildly of late for issuing bogus trade certificates to Chinese emigrating from here to California.

As we have said, this denunciation by the Censor comes most opportunely, there being a great want of funds just now at Canton for warlike preparations, but not less opportunity is the position of Messrs Ho and Mei—merchants for a number of years in Canton and Fatsian—offering \$100,000 down, and regular annual payments, for the privilege of farming, or collecting, certain existing and proposed new taxes on the native banks.

The C. M. S. N. Co. steamer *Melito* (formerly the *Bentetha*) has exchanged the Dragon for the St. George's Cross, being rechristened the *Bentetha*.—*Shanghai Mercury*.

Only eleven Chinese Banks opened for business yesterday (Feb. 1st) after the New Year holidays. Of these, two are considered good for any engagements they may undertake, and the remaining nine as of second, third, and fourth rank—one being of small standing. The number of banks established here, the number of banks will probably be increased by and by, as was the case last year.—N. C. D. News.

THE HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The third annual ordinary meeting of the shareholders in the above company was held in the offices of the General Managers (Messrs Jardine, Matheson & Co.). Those present were:—The Hon. F. B. Johnston (Chairman), and Messrs A. Wenrys, A. S. Cohen, W. Powell, M. B. Pollock, L. A. Rozario, M. A. Carvalho, A. O'D. Gourdin, D. MacCulloch, J. D. Hutchison, G. S. Coxon, H. A. Woollough, K. McK. Ross, J. D. Bell-Irving, A. J. Mosby, and W. Neish Bain (Manager) and H. C. MacLean (Secretary).

After the Chairman had read the notice calling the meeting,

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, we now have the pleasure to inform you that the working accounts of the Company for the last year, which you will find detailed in the books which have been for some days laid in the hands of shareholders. The result does not differ very greatly from that of the preceding year. There has been a gradual increase in the consumption of ice, but, on the other hand, the Directors are somewhat disappointed with the slow progress made, partly owing to a greater delay than was anticipated in the arrival of certain articles necessary for the construction.

Losses.—Negotiations for a new lease not having resulted in terms of sufficient security, it was decided at a previous meeting of shareholders that the Directors should conduct the hotel on behalf of the Company, which they have done since the 1st December. The Directors have considerably expectations of realizing an ample income when their arrangements are completed and the hotel is in proper working order.

Loan Account.—The loan has been paid off, and the Company is now free from debt.

Profit and Loss.—The accounts for the half-year, after deducting fire, insurance, taxes, &c., show a profit of \$9,716.66, out of which the directors, with the concurrence of the shareholders, propose to distribute a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, viz., \$1.50 per share for the three months ending 30th September, in accordance with the resolution passed at the meeting held on the 6th May, 1883, together with \$1.50 per share on the old, and 75 cents per share on the new issue for the three months ending 31st December, 1883, thus absorbing a sum of \$6,750.00, and to carry forward the balance of \$2,996.66.

Directors.—Mr. H. G. James having left the colony, Mr. C. S. Taylor has temporarily occupied a seat on the Board. According to section 32 of the Articles of Association, two of the directors—Mr. D. MacCulloch and Mr. Antonio dos Remedios—return from the Board, and are eligible for re-election, but the first named does not offer himself.

Advertisers.—Those counts have been published by Messrs J. H. Cox and W. de St. Croix, who offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. Taylor proposed and Mr. Vaughan seconded the re-election of Mr. Remedios as a Director.

Mr. Foss asked who the present Directors were, and, on being informed, he proposed that Mr. Taylor be elected as a Director in place of Mr. MacCulloch.

Mr. Taylor said he could not accept the position for reasons which would not do me any harm.

The Chairman proposed Mr. Parfitt.

Mr. Parfitt.—I am afraid I shall not have the time to give to the position that is necessary. I certainly shall not consent to act at present.

The Chairman suggested that the matter should be left to the Directors.

Mr. Taylor reminded the meeting that it was not necessary to have more than three directors.

The Chairman's suggestion was then adopted, and Mr. Remedios was unanimously elected.

Mr. Parfitt proposed the re-election of Messrs Cox and St. Croix as auditors. Mr. Foss seconded, and the motion was carried without dissent.

The Chairman intimated that the dividend warrants would be ready to-morrow. Mr. St. Croix said:—I beg to propose a vote of thanks to the Directors for their services during the last six months, and more especially for their services during the period of my withdrawal.

Mr. Foss.—While I was away, Mr. MacCulloch from the Directorate, we hope the remaining Directors will look after our interests as well as Mr. MacCulloch has done. (Applause.)

The meeting then dispersed.

The following is the report:—

In accordance with Section 53 of the Articles of Association, the Directors have now to submit to you their Half-yearly Report with Statement of Accounts for the six months ending 31st December, 1883.

Hotel Building.—The works under the contract for extension, alterations, and repairs have been commenced, but the Directors are somewhat disappointed with the slow progress made, partly owing to a greater delay than was anticipated in the years of plenty.

Talking of half-pennies.—The last dodge which tradesmen and others have to guard against is the passing of seven and sixpenny pieces. Gold is put to the value of seven shillings and sixpence with sufficient cross within to make the weight right; it rings well and is exceedingly difficult to detect.

Lane Account.—The loan has been paid off, and the Company is now free from debt.

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W. KERFOOT HUGHES, Chairman.

NOTES FROM THE METROPOLIS.

(From our Correspondent.)

London, Dec. 6th.

(Concluded.)

Miss Anderson, *la belle Americaine*, has appeared in Fugan Hall and Galatea, and, with the aid of Mr. Alma Tadema, regulating her dress and criticizing her attitudes, has scored a great success. She moved like a lovely Greek statue taking successive and, evidently, studied attitudes, like the Venus of Milo and the daughters of Niobe. She has spent hours in the British Museum for impressions to be reproduced and has not failed in every way by hard study to avail herself of all possible means to do much justice to the piece she has long wished to appear in.

Hard work has claimed a very popular composer as a victim. Mr. Frederick Clay, whose "Golden Ring" at the newly-opened Alhambra has proved such a triumphant success, was, on the second night of its appearance, stricken with an epileptic fit. Working late and early at forced rehearsals commencing at six and sometimes not finishing when.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, your report which has been in circulation for some little time past, I will, with kind permission, take as read. If any shareholder has any question to ask, I shall be very happy to reply to him.

No questions were asked, and, on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. St. Croix, the report and accounts were unanimously approved of.

The Chairman.—Gentlemen, you will observe by the accounts that the Directors have purchased a share in the North China Insurance Company, one in the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company and one in the Union Insurance Society of Canton, so as to avoid the risk of loss to the shareholders through outside shareholders and, therefore, in addition to the business of the hotel, have conducted the business of the hotel on behalf of the Company that they have had very many difficulties to contend with, most of which they hope are long to overcome. Like all beginners they have been unable to purchase their supplies in the cheapest markets, but they tried that with the experience they have already gained to economize considerably in future, especially when the various departments have been organized. A slight advance has been made in the monthly subscription, as the Directors found that nowhere but in Hongkong does such a monthly charge as \$30 exist. In Shanghai, the Club charge is \$45, and that may be increased for three meals per day. I might mention that the works have been stopped in consequence of the China New Year, and it has been deemed advisable not to commence again until after the races. We shall commence on the second floor and work downwards; and our architects inform us that inside a stone bordering on bankruptcy. They must either be very short of funds, or be heading up a large reserve—at the greatest inconvenience to the members. I believe there are something like 350 members connected with the Club, and with a

sum like \$3,500 per annum coming in, the place in its present state is a disgrace to any committee, or indeed any colony such as Hongkong.

The temporary fence at the swimming bath, (for the bamboo are surely not intended as a permanent affair) is constantly giving way, causing the bath to be often in a far worse state than is the famous *Hukou Haili*, (or *Water Wall*), which is situated by the water.

A great assault of arms took place at Livingston, of which boxing was the principal feature, and the very large attendance has made a substantial addition to the fund.

The Chairman suggested that the matter should be left to the Directors.

Mr. Taylor reminded the meeting that it was not necessary to have more than three directors.

The Chairman proposed Mr. Parfitt.

Mr. Parfitt.—I am afraid I shall not have the time to give to the position that is necessary. I certainly shall not consent to act at present.

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THE CHINA REVIEW.
PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY,
TENTH YEAR.

THIS Review, which was intended to meet the wants of many students of Chinese caused by the discontinuance of "Notes and Queries on China and Japan," has reached its Twelfth Volume. The Review discusses those topics which are uppermost in the minds of students of the Far East and about which every intelligent person connected with China or Japan is desirous of acquiring trustworthy information. It includes many interesting Notes and original Papers on such Sciences, Ethnology, Folklore, Geography, History, Literature, Mythology, Natural History, Antiquities, and Social Manners and Customs, etc., etc., of China, Japan, Mongolia, Tibet, and the Far East generally. Recently a new department has been taken, and the Review now gives papers on Trade, Commerce, and Descriptive notes of Travel by well-known writers. It was thought that by extending the scope of the Review in this direction, the Magazine would be made more generally useful.

The Review department receives special attention, and endeavours are made to present careful and consecutive record of Literature on China, etc., and to give extracts embodying sketches of the most recent work on such topics. Authors and Publishers are requested to forward work to "Editor, China Review," care of China Mail Office.

The Notes and Queries are still continued and form an important means of obtaining from and diffusing among students knowledge on obscure points.

The Correspondents' column also affords further and greater facilities for the interchange of views and discussion of various topics.

Original contributions in Chinese, Latin, or any of the Modern Languages are received. The papers are contributed by the members of the various Consular, the Imperial Customs, and Hongkong Services, and also by the Missionary bodies amongst whom a high degree of Chinese scholarship is assiduously cultivated. Amongst the regular contributors are Drs. Chalmers, Patel, Brothman, H. H. Price, Professor F. G. L. Moore, and Messrs. Balfour, Watson, Scott, Phillips, MacLennan, Guest, Jennings, and Korch, Parker, Playfair, Gilks, and Pitton—all well-known names, indicative of sound scholarship and thorough mastery of their subjects.

The Subscription is fixed at \$6.50 per annum, postage included—payable in advance.

Orders for binding volumes will be promptly attended to; Address, "Manager, China Mail Office."

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

"All our learned societies should subscribe to this scholarly and enterprising Review."—Northern Christian Advocate (U.S.).

"The China Review" is an excellent table of contents.—Celestial Empire.

"The Publication always contains subjects of interest to sojourners in the Far East, and the present issue will hold favourable if not advantageous comparison, with preceding numbers."—Celestial Empire.

"This number contains several articles of interest and value."—North-China Herald.

"The China Review for September-October fully maintains the high standard of excellence which characterizes that publication, and altogether forms a very interesting and readable number. Meteorologists will find an interesting and valuable contribution by Dr. Fritsch, on "the Amount of Precipitation (Rain and Snow) of Peking," showing the results of observations made at the Imperial Russian Observatory at Peking, from 1841 to 1880. "Notes on the Dutch Occupation of Formosa," by Mr. G. Phillips, contains some interesting information, although much of it is second-hand. The Notices of New Books include a most generous and appreciative review of "The Divine Classic of Nan-Hua" and the Notes and Queries are as usual very interesting."—North-China Daily News.

A substantial and reliable Review which all students of China and the Chinese would do well to patronize."—Christian Standard.

"The November-December number of the China Review contains more than usual, but the few articles are very interesting. The writing comes up to Mr. Herbert A. Giles on "The New Testament in Chinese" treats of a question that must necessarily be of great importance in the eyes of all missionaries."—Mr. E. H. Parker's "Short Journeys in Szechuan" are continued, and a goodly instalment of those travels in the interior of China is given. Mr. F. H. Balfour contributes a paper of some length entitled "The Emperor Cheng, founder of the Chinese Empire," which will be read with genuine interest by students of Chinese history. A few short notices of New Books and a number of Notes and Queries, one of which, "On Chinese Ortho in Western Borneo and Java," might appropriately have been placed under a separate heading, complete the number."—H. R. Daily Press.

Fraser's Oriental Record contains the following notice of the China Review:—The present publication, judging by the number now before us, is intended to occupy a position in regard to China and the neighbouring countries, some what similar to that which has been filled in India by the Caledonia Review. The great degree of attention that has been bestowed of late years upon the investigation of Chinese literature, antiquities, and social developments, to say nothing of linguistic studies, has led to the accumulation of important stores of information, rendering such a channel of publicity as is now provided extremely desirable; and contributions of much interest may fairly be looked for from the members of the foreign consular services, the Chinese Customs' corps, and the missionary body, among whom a high degree of Chinese scholarship is now assiduously cultivated, and who are severally represented in the first number of the Review by papers highly creditable to their respective authors.

Some translations from Chinese novels and plays are marked by both accuracy and freedom of style; and an account of the career of the Chinese Emperor in the seventh century, "Su Tung-p'o," by Mr. E. O. Brown, is notably historically valuable, but is distinguished by its literary grace. Beside notices of new books relating to China and the East, which will be a useful feature of the Review, if carried out with punctuality and detail, we are glad to notice that "Notes" and "Queries" are destined to find a place in its pages also. It is to be hoped that this opening for contributions on Chinese subjects may evoke a similar degree of literary zeal to that which was displayed during the lifetime of its predecessor in the field, and that the China Review may receive the support necessary to ensure its continuance.

NOW READY.

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Hongkong Rates of Postage.

In the following Statements and Tables the Rates are given in cents, and are for Letters per half ounce, for Books and Patterns, per two ounces.

Newspapers over four ounces in weight are charged as double, triple, &c., as the case may be, but such papers or packages of paper may be sent at Book Rate. Two Newspapers must not be folded together as one, nor must anything whatever be inserted except bond fide Supplements. Printed matter may, however, be enclosed, if the whole is paid at Book Rate. Printed Out-patent may be paid either as Newspapers or Books.

Commercial Papers signify such papers as, though written by hand, do not bear the character of an actual or personal correspondence, and are invoices, deeds, copied documents, &c. The charge on the same is as for books, but, unless the weight of a packet containing any partially written paper, it will not be charged less than 5 cents.

The sender of any Registered Article may accompany it with a Return Receipt on paying an extra fee of 5 cents.

The limit of weight for Books and Commercial Papers to Foreign Post Office is 4 lbs. Patterns for such offices are limited to 8 ounces, and must not exceed these dimensions: 8 inches by 4 inches by 2 inches.

Countries of the Postal Union.

The Union may be taken to comprise Europe, all foreign possessions in Asia, Japan, W. Africa, Egypt, Mauritius, N. America, Mexico, Salvador, Brazil, Peru, Chile, Venezuela, The Argentine Republic, Jamaica, Trinidad, Guiana, Honduras, Burmese, Labuan, Hawaii, with all Danish, French, Netherlands, Portuguese and Spanish Colonies.

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Postage to Union Countries.

General Rates, by any route:—
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Registration, 10 cents.
Newspapers, 2 cents each.
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Com. Papers, 2 cents per 2 oz.

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Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, and Fiji, via Torres Straits, Letters, 10; Registration, 10; Newspapers, 2; Books and Patterns, 10; Via Ceylon, Letters, 25; Registration, 10; Newspapers, 2; Books and Patterns, 2.

Natal, the Cape, St. Helena, Ascension, Bolivia, Letters, 25; Registration, 10; Newspapers, 6; Books and Patterns, 5.

LOCAL POSTAGE.

General Local Rates, per cent.
For Hongkong, 10 cents.
Macao, 10 cents.
Japan, 10 cents.
China, 10 cents.
Other Ports, 10 cents.

Letters, per cent.
Post Cards, 4 cents.
Patterns, per 2 oz., 1 cent.
Current, 1 cent.
Return, 1 cent.

(a) Via Singapore, 10 cents.
(b) Between Hongkong, Canton, and Macao 2 cents.

Local Delivery.

1. All correspondence posted before 6 p.m. on any week day for addresses in Victoria will be delivered the same day, and generally within two hours, unless the delivery should be retarded by the Contract Mail.

2. Invitations, &c. can generally be delivered within Victoria at the private houses of the addressees rather than at places of business, if a wish to that effect is expressed by the sender, otherwise all correspondence is invariably delivered at the nearest place of business.

3. Boxholders who desire to send Circulars, Dividend Warrants, Invitations, Cards, &c., all of the same weight, to addresses in Hongkong, Bangkok, or the Ports of China, may deliver them to the Post Office un stamped, the postage being then charged to the sender's account. Each batch must consist of at least ten.

4. Boxholders may also send Patterns to the same places in the same way. Envelopes containing Patterns may be wholly closed, if the nature of the contents be first exhibited or stated to the Postmaster General, as he may consider necessary, and approved by him. Printed Circulars may be inserted in such Pattern packets.

Parcels.—The public is reminded that there is no such thing as Parcel Post to Europe, &c. Much trouble and disappointment are caused by persistent attempts to send small valuable trifles through the Post. Fans, Curios, Articles of Dress, Fancy Work, and similar presents are continually being refused, the senders having often spent more in Postage than would have paid the freight by steamer. No refund can be made on such parcels of the value of Stamps obliterated before the nature of the contents was discovered.

Local and Indian Parcel Post.

1. Small Parcels may be sent by Post of Post Offices between Hongkong and any of the British Post Offices in China, as well as to Japan, Mexico, Pernambuco, the Straits Settlements, Ceylon, and India. They must not exceed the following dimensions, 2 feet long, 1 foot broad, 1 foot deep, weigh more than 5 lbs., nor be smaller than 1 in. by 2 in. Such parcels may be wholly closed if they bear this special endorsement.

PARCEL, containing no letter, but any parcel may be opened by direction of the Postmaster-General. In the Case of Parcels for India a declaration of contents and value is required, a printed form for which is supplied gratis. The Registration of Parcels for India and Ceylon is compulsory.

2. The following cannot be transmitted:—
Parcels insufficiently packed or protected; or liable to be crushed (as bandboxes, &c.) Opium, Glass, Liquids, Explosive substances, Matches, Indigo, Dyestuffs, Ice, Meat, Fish, Game, Fruit, Vegetables, or whatever is dangerous to the Mails, or likely to become offensive or injurious in transit.

3. Parcels are as a general rule forwarded by Private Ship, not by Contract Mail Packet. To insure they are forwarded by the P. & O. and Indian Mail Packets only, to be Cabled by P. & O. only. No responsibility is incurred with regard to any parcel unless registered, and then only to the amount of \$10.

4. The public are cautioned not to confound these facilities with a "Parcel Post to Europe, &c.", which does not exist.

It is necessary that the following rules be strictly observed.

1. No Letter or Parcel, whether to be registered or unregistered, can be received for Postage if it contains gold or silver money, jewels, precious articles, or anything that, in a general rule, is liable to Customs duties.

2. This Regulation prohibits the sending of Patterns of dutiable articles, unless the quantity sent be so small as to make the sample of its value.

3. The limits of weight allowed are as follows:—

Books and Papers—British Offices, 5 lbs.; to the Continent, &c., 4 lbs. Patterns—British Offices, 5 lbs. If with intrinsic value to the Continent, &c., 8 oz.

Indemnity for the Loss of a Registered Article.

The Post Office is not legally responsible for the safe delivery of Registered correspondence, but it is prepared to make good the contents of such correspondence lost while passing through the Post, to the extent of \$10, in certain cases, provided:—

1. That the sender duly observes all the conditions of Registration required.

2. That the letter was securely enclosed in a reasonably strong envelope.

3. That application was made to the Postmaster General of Hongkong immediately the loss was discovered, the envelope being invariably forwarded with such application unless it also is lost.

4. That the Postmaster General is satisfied that the loss occurred whilst the correspondence was in the custody of the British Post administration in China, that it was not caused by any fault on the part of the sender, by destruction by fire, or shipwreck, nor by dishonesty or negligence of any person in the employment of the Hongkong Post Office.

5. No compensation can be paid for damage to fragile articles such as portraits, watches, handsomely bound books, &c., which reach their destination, although in a broken or deteriorated condition.

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